



April 22, 2019

The path to the White House runs through Western Pennsylvania

Dear Democratic Presidential Candidate:

Thank you for putting yourself forward to seek the Democratic nomination for the 2020 presidential election. This coming Sunday marks one year until the Democratic presidential primary election in Pennsylvania. Our path to victory runs through western Pennsylvania. That's why I'd like to extend an open invitation to all of our Democratic candidates to come here, get to know us, and see for yourself the tremendous opportunity we have in western Pennsylvania to help elect a Democratic President in 2020.

That opportunity does not end at the borders of Allegheny County. We proved it last year, when Conor Lamb won a close special election for Congress in a gerrymandered district that voted for President Trump by nearly 20 points. Conor went everywhere and fought for every vote — in Washington, Green and Westmoreland Counties as well as Allegheny. We need to do the same thing in 2020. We need to go everywhere and talk about the the issues that unite most people in our region and in our party. Good jobs, affordable health care, education, support for unions, protecting Social Security and Medicare.

We saw in 2016 that winning big in Allegheny County isn't enough. And we saw in 2018 that there are people all over western Pennsylvania who share our priorities and are ready to come back to our party. But only if we show up.

I've lived in western Pennsylvania my whole life, and I've been the Allegheny County Executive for the past eight years. I work with Democratic elected officials all over this region — in Washington, Westmoreland, Greene and Fayette Counties, in Beaver, Lawrence, Butler, Armstrong and Indiana Counties. In every one of these counties you'll find a lot of people willing to listen and give you a chance, regardless of who they've voted for in the past.

We want to take you to meet them and make your case. That is how we'll win in 2020. We can't do it without Pennsylvania, and we can't do it unless we compete here in western Pennsylvania like we haven't competed in a long time.

Come visit us, and let's start winning the most important election of our lives.

Sincerely,

Rich Fitzgerald
County Executive